

IFW

IPLM Group, P.A.  
P.O. Box 18455  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
612-331-7400 telephone  
612-331-7401 facsimile



PATENT

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

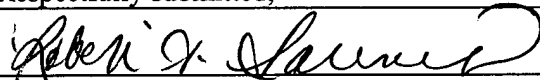
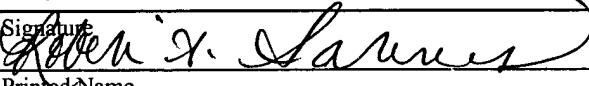
Attorney Docket No.	Serial No.
100P270US01	10/781,397

MS: Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In re Application of:	Daniel L. Franklin et al		
Serial No.:	10/781,397	Examiner:	
Confirmation No.:	1881	Art Unit:	1725
Filed:	February 18, 2004		
For:	METHOD OF DRYING A SAND MOLD USING A VACUUM		
We are transmitting the following documents:  Return Postcard Transmittal Letter [1 page] Information Disclosure Statement (37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)) [2 pages] Information Disclosure Statement in an Application (Form 1449) [2 pages] Copies of Three (3) Prior Art References			

**Please charge Deposit Account 50-0549 for any fees under 37 CFR §1.16 and §1.17 that may be required during the pendency of this application. This authorization includes the fee for any extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a) that may be necessary. To the extent any such extension should become necessary it is hereby requested.**

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 45,070	Direct Dial 612-331-7419	
Date: June 14, 2004		Robin A. Sannes
United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer No. 23322		
<b>Certificate of Mailing</b>		
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States mail, addressed to: MS: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below indicated date.		
		
Date of Mailing June 14, 2004		Printed Name Robin A. Sannes



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Daniel L. Franklin et al      Examiner:  
Serial No.: 10/781,397      Art Unit: 1725  
Filed: February 18, 2004      Confirmation No.: 1881  
Docket No.: 100P270US01  
For: METHOD OF DRYING A SAND MOLD USING A VACUUM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

MS: Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with the Notice signed July 11, 2003, at 1276 OG 55, copies of the U.S. patents listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not enclosed. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of every other document or information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked

as being considered and initialled by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500549.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL L. FRANKLIN ET AL

Date: 06/14/2004

By: Robin A. Sannes

Robin A. Sannes

Reg. No. 45,070

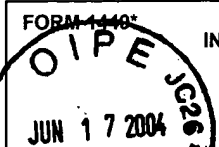
IPLM Group, P.A.

Post Office Box 18455

Minneapolis, MN 55418

Telephone (612) 331-7419

RAS:das

FORM 1449* 	<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>		Docket Number: 100P270US01	Application Number: 10/781,397
	<b>IN AN APPLICATION</b>		Applicant: Daniel L. Franklin et al	
	(Use several sheets if necessary)		Filing Date: 02/18/2004	Group Art Unit: 1725

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2,145,317	01/1939	Salzberg	22	188	
	4,064,926	12/1977	Naegele	164	154	
	4,158,381	06/1979	Michelson	164	226	
	4,867,228	09/1989	Novelli et al.	164	525	
	5,014,763	05/1991	Frank	164	15	
	5,262,100	11/1993	Moore et al.	264	25	
	5,320,157	06/1994	Siak et al.	164	12	
	5,365,995	11/1994	Warner	164	12	
	5,580,400	12/1996	Takahashi	148	302	
	5,580,624	12/1996	Andersen et al.	428	34.5	
	5,582,231	12/1996	Siak et al.	164	525	
	5,715,885	02/1998	Nagarwalla et al.	164	20	
	5,749,409	05/1998	Siak et al.	164	23	
	5,837,373	11/1998	Siak et al.	428	404	
	6,016,862	01/2000	Herreid	164	525	
	6,090,915	07/2000	Herreid	530	350	
	6,467,525	10/2002	Herreid et al.	164	12	
	6,505,671	01/2003	McKibben et al.	164	12	
	6,666,253	12/23/03	Herreid et al.	164	20	
	Re. 36,001	12/22/98	Siak et al.	164	525	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	EP-0 221 537	05/1987	Europe				X

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

<b>FORM 1449*</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 100P270US01	Application Number: 10/781,397
	Applicant: Daniel L. Franklin et al	
	Filing Date: 02/18/2004	Group Art Unit: 1725

<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
		Wile, "Coremaking," ASM Handbook, Formerly Ninth Edition, Metals Handbook ASM International, Volume 15 Casting, The Materials Information Society, Materials Park, OH; pp 238-241.
		Mold & Core Test Handbook; 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition; 2001

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	